

# FOCUSED



*FOCUSED LIVING PROPERLY VALUES  
EARTHLY WEALTH*

**Pentecost 8**

***Sunday, July 31, 2022***



**Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School**

**623-224-8839**

**[www.crossofglory.org](http://www.crossofglory.org)**

10111 W Jomax Road,  
Peoria, AZ 85383

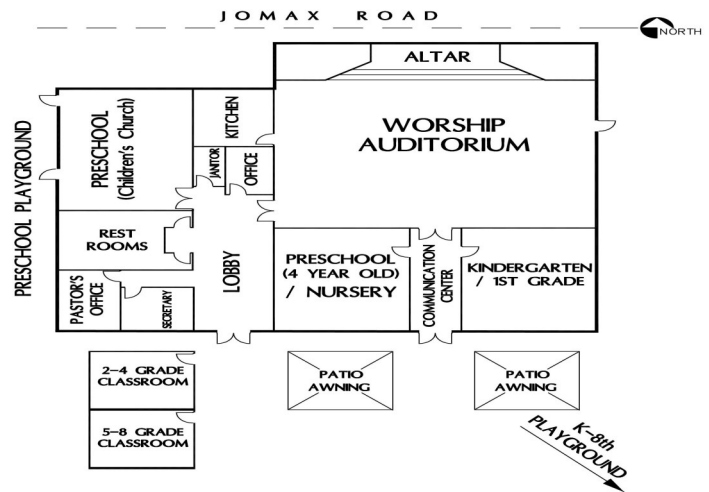
**Sun. 9am Worship**

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

**Welcome to our Worship Center!** God defines a church as people gathering around Word and

## Families with children

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult guardian.
- We invite children (*ages 3 to 4<sup>th</sup> grade*) to take part in our “**Children in Church**” program. Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. So, for the beginning and end of the service, we encourage parents to guide their children through the service.
- At the indicated time, children can come forward to hear a special children’s message at the feet of the pastor. Let’s work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!



Jesus wants focused followers. However, one of the things that can most easily get in the way of our focus is our earthly possessions. It is no surprise, therefore, that Jesus’ words so frequently focus his followers on wealth. Jesus’ followers don’t reject earthly wealth or despise it. They can be grateful for every good gift that comes from the hand of God. However, Jesus’ followers value earthly wealth correctly. They understand what earthly wealth can and cannot do. They don’t give earthly wealth a role in their lives it will never be able to fill. This week we focus on the fact that the identity and security earthly wealth can never provide is found fully and freely in Christ.

### Acknowledgments

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## Service of the Word

### Opening Hymn: My Worth Is Not in What I Own

CWH 753

Soloist sings Vs. 1 & 2; Congregation joins for Vs. 3-5

*My worth is not in what I own,  
not in the strength of flesh and bone,  
but in the costly wounds of love  
at the cross.*

*My worth is not in skill or name,  
in win or lose, in pride or shame,  
but in the blood of Christ that flowed  
at the cross.*

*I rejoice in my Redeemer—  
greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul.  
I will trust in him, no other;  
my soul is satisfied in him alone.*

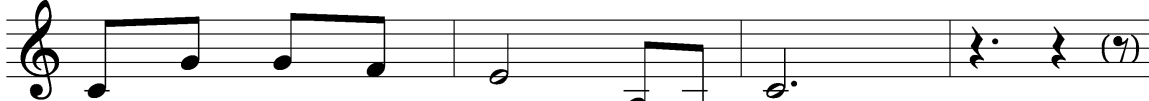
#### Congregation Joins:



3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,  
4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or  
5 Two won - ders here that I con - fess: my




youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -  
hu - man wis - dom's fleet - ing light. But I will  
worth and my un - wor - thi - ness. My val - ue



ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4  
boast in know - ing Christ at the cross. Refrain  
fixed— my ran - som paid at the cross. Refrain

*Refrain*



I re-joyce in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,



Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974  
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## Greeting

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

## Confession of Sins

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

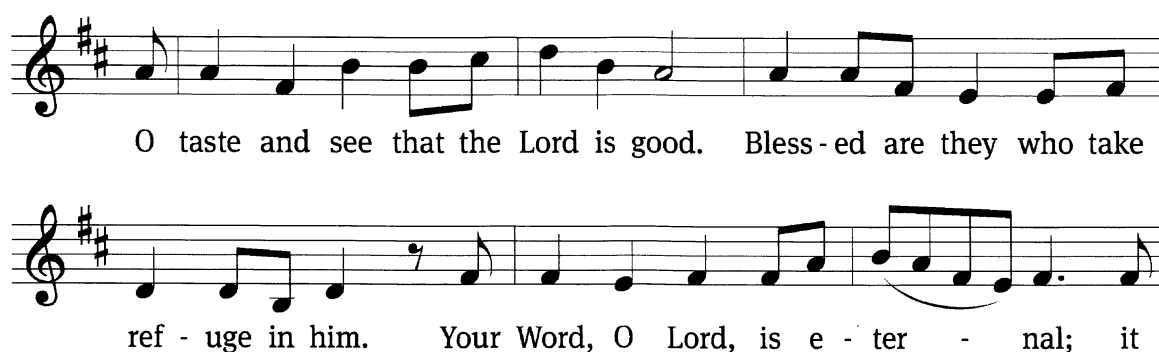
M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

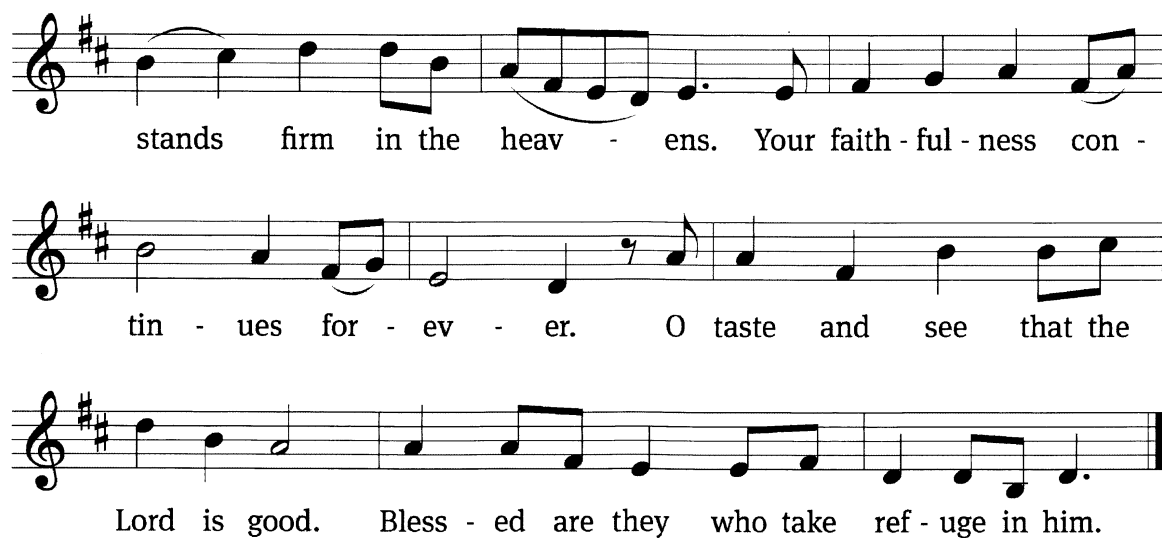
C: **Amen.**

## Prayer and Praise

*(Sung by Congregation)*

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





Text: n/a

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer, b. 1949

## Prayer of the Day

(Prayed by Minister)

M: O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you have stored up for us in heaven that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## First Reading

*Ecclesiastes 1:1-2,12-14; 2:18-26*

*King Solomon, possibly the wealthiest man who ever lived, I  
earned by experience the limited value of earthly possessions.*

<sup>1</sup>The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem:

<sup>2</sup>“Meaningless! Meaningless!”

says the Teacher.

“Utterly meaningless!

Everything is meaningless.”

<sup>12</sup>I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God has laid on mankind! <sup>14</sup>I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

<sup>18</sup>I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. <sup>19</sup>And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Yet they will have control over all the fruit of my toil into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. <sup>20</sup>So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. <sup>21</sup>For a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. <sup>22</sup>What do people get for all the

toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun? <sup>23</sup>All their days their work is grief and pain; even at night their minds do not rest. This too is meaningless.

<sup>24</sup>A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, <sup>25</sup>for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment? <sup>26</sup>To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

## Psalm

Psalm 90C

Soloist sings Vs. 1-2; Congregation joins for Vs. 3,5 & 8

*We live, O Lord, within your grace,  
for you have been our dwelling place;  
before the mountains came to be,  
you are true God eternally.*

*A thousand years within your sight  
pass like a watch within the night,  
like yesterday when it is through,  
the briefest blink in all you view.*

### Congregation joins:



3 You say to chil - dren of the earth: "Re - turn to  
5 So teach us, Lord, to count our days; make wise our  
8 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, be our dwell - ing

dust, which gave you birth!" We grow like grass be - neath the  
hearts to seek your ways. How long, O LORD, till you re -  
place e - ter - nal - ly, and when the moun - tains are no

sun, but with - er when our day is done.  
turn? How much, O LORD, for you we yearn!  
more, your name we ev - er will a - dore!

Text: Stephen P. Starke Tune: G. A. Hennig  
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Second Reading

Colossians 3:1–11

*If life does not consist in the abundance of one's possessions, then of what does life consist? Paul tells us—the fact that in baptism we died and were raised with Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup>You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. <sup>8</sup>But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. <sup>11</sup>Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Alleluia. (*Matthew 6:20,21*)

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

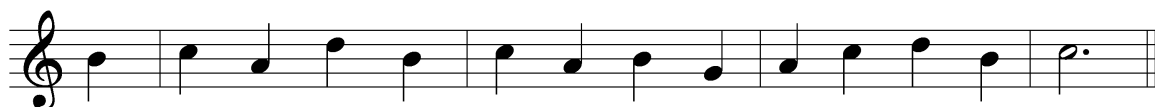
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Sermon Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past

CWH 820 Vs. 1-4, 6



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou-sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,  
6 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de-fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end-less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
still be our guard while trou-bles last and our e - ter - nal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt. Tune: William Croft, 1678-1727  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Focused Living Properly Values Earthly Wealth

Luke 12:13-21

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

<sup>14</sup>Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” <sup>15</sup>Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

<sup>16</sup>And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest.

<sup>17</sup>He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

<sup>18</sup>“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. <sup>19</sup>And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

<sup>20</sup>“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

<sup>21</sup>“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

## Apostles' Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**



and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Song of the Season: How Deep the Father's Love for Us

CWH 523



1 How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how vast be - yond all  
2 Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on his  
3 I will not boast in an - y - thing: no gifts, no pow'r, no



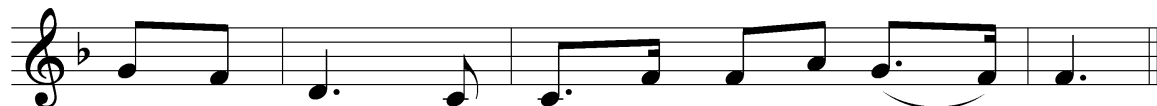
mea - sure, that he should give his on - ly Son to  
shoul - ders. A - shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call  
wis - dom. But I will boast in Je - sus Christ: his



make a wretch his trea - sure. How great the pain of sear - ing loss.  
out a - mong the scof - fers. It was my sin that held him there  
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from his re - ward?



The Fa - ther turns his face a - way as wounds which mar the  
un - til it was ac - com - plished; his dy - ing breath has  
I can - not give an an - swer. But this I know with



Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.  
brought me life. I know that it is fin - ished.  
all my heart: his wounds have paid my ran - som.

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## **The Offering and Offering Prayer**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

## **Prayer of the Church**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*(Prayed in Unison)*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Closing Prayer**

*(Prayed by Minister)*

**M:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Blessing**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone

CWH 818

*Soloist sings Vs. 1 and Congregation joins for Vs. 2-3*

*My soul finds rest in God alone,  
my rock and my salvation;  
a fortress strong against my foes,  
and I will not be shaken.*

*Though lips may bless and hearts may curse,  
and lies like arrows pierce me,  
I'll fix my heart on righteousness,  
I'll look to him who hears me. (Refrain)*

*O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;  
everlasting, never failing, my Redeemer, my God.*

**Congregation joins::**



2 Find rest, my soul, in God a-lone a - mid the world's temp-ta - tions;  
3 I'll set my gaze on God a-lone and trust in him com-plete - ly;



when e - vil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my sal -  
with ev - 'ry day pour out my soul, and he will prove his



va - tion. Though rich - es come and rich - es go, don't  
mer - cy. Though life is but a fleet - ing breath, a



set your heart up - on them; the fields of hope in  
sigh too brief to mea - sure, my king has crushed the



which I sow are har - vest - ed in heav - en.  
curse of death and I am his for - ev - er.



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Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978

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Jomax Worship Volunteers	July 31st	August 7th	August 14th
Counters	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Stacy Cornell	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell
Communion Setup	-	Sharon Kull	-
Ushers	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson Grant Stern	Pedro Contreras Sabrina Ebel Tanner Plitzuweit	Nick Nicholai Len Collyard Steve Semmann Sharon Wilson
Sunday Refreshments	Mary Berggren Shannon Gullerud	Stacy Cornell Diana Piepenbrink	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann
A/V	Titus Patterson Chris Patterson	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras	Stacy Cornell Aaron Gullerud

## Offerings

Offerings can also be made online by visiting [crossofglory.org](http://crossofglory.org) in your browser, clicking on the menu on the upper right corner (3 horizontal lines) and selecting “**Giving**” from the menu. You can also scan the QR code with your phone’s camera. This will take you directly to the offering page. In addition, you may also mail your offerings to Cross of Glory at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383.



## Pantry Shower

We welcome to Cross of Glory Mr. Radue, our new fifth- and sixth-grade teacher and athletic director. Mike joins us from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He recently graduated from Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota. Let's join together to welcome him to the Cross of Glory with a shower of gift cards and pantry items.

Mr. Radue lives in Surprise. Nearby are Walmart, Target, and Fry's. Please bring your welcome gift to church on or before his installation service, which is on Sunday, August 7 (during the regular Sunday worship service). Items can be dropped off in the office during summer hours 9-2pm.

Mike is also on the hunt for a cheap or free and dryer.



**AUGUST 5TH, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

*Ice Cream Social!*

Please join us for the Ice Cream Social. There will be music, games and yummy ice cream. Bring your own ice cream creation for the tasting contest.

## Meal Train

We have wonderful news! Jay and Betsy Collins welcomed a healthy baby boy into their family on Thursday, July 7. His name is Josiah, and he weighed 6 pounds 7 ounces at birth. Betsy is the first- and second-grade teacher at Cross of Glory, and Jay serves as janitor.

A Meal Train has been created for the family. If you can provide a meal or send a Door Dash gift card, please use the sign-up below. A meal is a wonderful way to bless a family as they are adjusting to the new member of their family.

Link is in the Weekly News.

## Positions Available

Two part-time to Full-time Preschool Aids  
Part-time Music Teacher

Please contact Liz at [cog.secretary@crossofglory.org](mailto:cog.secretary@crossofglory.org) for the application

## Volunteers Needed

We need more counters in to rotation to count offerings on Sunday mornings right after church. Please contact John Kull at (858) 395-5666 or [financialsecretary@crossofglory.org](mailto:financialsecretary@crossofglory.org)

## Rental Opportunities

Please keep an eye out for affordable rentals (apartments, casitas, condos, extra rooms, etc.). We have one young man searching for options for housing, Pastor Ehlers' nephew, Tim Hampson.

## Singles Retreat

WELS/ELS Singles Retreat Nov 11-13, 2022 at Camp Phillip

Did you know that November 11 is International Singles Day? We invite you to join us at the 2022 WELS/ELS Singles Retreat on November 11-13 at Camp Phillip, Wisconsin for a weekend of fun and fellowship. For more information about the event and to register check out our webpage: [2022 Singles](#)

## Golden Agers Breakfast

The next Golden Agers breakfast will be held on Thursday, August 11, at 9:30. The location is Brothers Family Restaurant, 8466 W. Peoria Ave, Peoria, AZ 85345. Please email Judy Sasse if you plan to attend. [sasseja43aol.com](mailto:sasseja43aol.com).

## Life Coaching Group

Topic: Cornerstone  
2nd & 4th Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Mountain Vista Club

1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Cave Creek

Course description: There are an enormous number of challenges that can occur in life from seemingly tiny to soul-crushingly overwhelming. The CORNERSTONE resilience system is designed to provide a specific set of steps to follow to put into perspective those things that seem unmanageable. Through six one-hour sessions, participants will learn and practice skills and benefit from the ideas of others in their quest to be more resilient and “bounce back” in difficulty.

## Worship at New River

We are continuing worship at the Kiwanis Park in New River. We will worship using remote access and/or prerecorded sermons. **Pastor Freeman will be leading worship every third Sunday and offering Holy Communion at 9:15.**

We will be asking the mission board to discuss making New River a mission start-up. If you are interested in joining us, the address is 48606 N. 17th Ave., New River, AZ. When using navigation, Google maps is the best choice; Apple may get you lost. The service time is 9:30 a.m.

## THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

July 28, 6:30 p.m.	Vistancia Cornerstone Group
July 31, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
July 31, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)
July 31, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (New River)

## LOOKING AHEAD

August 1, 6:30 p.m.	Cave Creek Cornerstone Group
August 4, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
August 5, 6:00 p.m.	Ice Cream Social
August 7, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
August 7, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)
August 7, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (New River)

# PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

*For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.*

***Roger Ferch**, underwent a successful surgery, we offer a prayer of thanksgiving.*

***Velta Larson**, as she recovers from an infection.*

***Gerry Ehlers**, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatments. The cancer is spreading, and he began intense treatments on May 10 for three months.*

***Pat Powell**, as she recovers from back issues.*

***For the family of Gus Koutia in Lebanon**, as they face a food shortage due to the interruption of imports from Ukraine.*

## MILITARY

***E4 Specialist Alice Henderson**, granddaughter of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at San Antonio, TX Ft. Sam Houston Army base in Medical Institute of Surgery Research: Burn Unit.*

***E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious**, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.*

***Major JD Larson**, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.*

***Sara (Dan) McArdle**, daughter of Martha (Scott) Wofford, Air Force Pilot, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.*

***Sgt. Blake Andrew Nelsen**, son of Rick & Karyn Nelsen and brother of Seri & Lilli, USMC.*

***Ben Weyer**, serving in the military, Currently deployed to the Persian Gulf. Please pray that our*



**Cross of Glory** was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied "Lamb of God" who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible's claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus' saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible's primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we're all sinners equally saved by Jesus' substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus' love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Bibli-